

DJILAS CASE -- (Was V. P. of Yugoslavia --

Top Party theoritician)

*Pres. Nat. Assembly*

Basic issue was Djilas' violation of

Party discipline in publishing articles attacking

Yugo CP thought and practice instead of dis-

cussing criticisms in Central Committee.

During late November and December,

Djilas had published criticism of Party rigidity

and inability to change with the times -- toward

freer institutions.

- "There is no, and can be no, other way out but more democracy, more free discussion, freer elections . . . and more adherence to the law."
- Advocated smaller Party organization removal of Party influence in some government organs.
- Attacked "fancied superiority" of the "closed circle" of Party bureaucracy.

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- Attacked smug rudeness by high-level wives to actress Vranjak (recently married to Col. Gen. Dapcevic, Chief General Staff) for not being a Partisan veteran (was only 13 at end of war) .

Central Committee, YCP, met 16-17 Jan. , expelled Djilas from Central Committee, forced resignation from Presidency of Federal Assembly and from Vice Presidency of Federal Executive Council. Reported he will be given minor job in secondary education to survive.

Djilas affair likely to lead to tightening of Party discipline. Plenary session of Central Committee scheduled for late February -- early March.

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Reported that provincial CP apparatus,  
still strongly imbued with Bolshevik ideology,  
forced rebuke of Djilas. Also reported Djilas  
had been led astray by contacts with UK Socialists -  
Bevan - had gone to Coronation.

*Buchanan*

Cominform Journal - 29 January - noted  
Djilas affair showed bureaucracy, lawlessness  
and moral degeneration of Yugo leadership,  
*but* invited Yugo people return to Cominform as only  
way out of crisis.

*Y.S. - Tito statement*

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ANSWERS TO COMINFORM JOURNAL APPROACH  
(29 January 1954)

Deputy Foreign Secretary Bebler stated:

"We have had many such invitations.

We are not naive." (31 January 1954)

Belgrade Radio (1 February 1954)

"The aim of this Cominform article was to perform a slick maneuver, to provoke suspicion and to ally itself with all those circles which, in various ways, wage an increasing campaign against Yugoslavia . . . Yugoslavia always advocated correct international relations, but on the condition of full equality. Our experience in history with the Eastern European countries, however, is too rich in the negative sense."

NSC BRIEFING

4 February 1954

### YUGOSLAVIA'S CROP SITUATION

Drought conditions in the fall of 1953 have seriously affected Yugoslavia's winter bread grain crop, although the exact extent cannot yet be determined. Replanting this spring and excellent weather conditions in 1954 may make up much of this loss, but the stage has been set for a disastrous crop situation if poor weather prevails. In any case, the setback that has already occurred will have a negative effect on Yugoslavia's attempt to improve its adverse balance of payments position.

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Although Yugoslavia's 1953 crop was above average, a disastrous crop in 1954 would force the government to depend on large-scale extraordinary Western aid to prevent both a serious food shortage and cutbacks in its military and economic programs.

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